

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
Pittsburgh

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

NIOSH is the primary Federal Agency responsible for conducting research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related illness and injury. The NIOSH mission is to provide national and world leadership to prevent work-related illness, injury, disability, and death by gathering information, conducting scientific research, and translating the knowledge gained into products and services. This broad mission combines the research emphasis of the National Institutes of Health with the prevention and service emphases of the CDC.

NIOSH currently has two research divisions located in Pittsburgh:

The National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL) is NIOSH's newest scientific laboratory, established to carry out a program of personal protective equipment and respirator research, technology development, and standard setting to protect the Nation's 50 million miners, fire fighters, and other emergency responders, as well as health care, agriculture, and industrial workers who rely on personal protective equipment. Website: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/default.html>

The Pittsburgh Research Laboratory (PRL) provides leadership for prevention of work-related illness, injury, and fatalities in miners by focusing on mine safety and health research. While research conducted at PRL covers most mining sectors, the laboratory's major program focus is on underground coal mining.
Website: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/>

ASSISTANCE TO SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY: NIOSH-Pittsburgh has a large outreach

program providing many educational outreach opportunities that range from lab tours and school visits to unpaid student internship opportunities. We are partnered with the following organizations: Allegheny Schools Science Education and Technology (ASSET), Mon Valley Education Consortium (MVEC), Carnegie Science Center (CSC), Pittsburgh Section of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration (SME), Pittsburgh Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the Pittsburgh Public Schools/Pioneer Education Center (PEC). Through these partnerships we provide teachers and students with: “expert” scientists for science curriculum assistance, classroom/career day presentations; site tours which include NIOSH’s Safety Research Coal Mine; judges for invention contests, science fairs, and science bowls; student internship opportunities; rock and mineral kits with information about the uses for each specimen; workshop activities for students with disabilities. NIOSH is also involved with the coordination of programs, such as: The Annual Expanding Your Horizons in Mathematics and Science Conference, Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair and Festival Week, Minerals Education Booth, and our Annual Take Your Children to Work Day. NIOSH is represented on the West Jefferson Hills School Action Committee. NIOSH educational assistance is also provided to scouting groups, local community organizations, senior citizen groups, and domestic/foreign visitors.